



Federal Register

**Monday,
December 9, 2002**

Part XLV

Social Security Administration

Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA)

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Office of the Commissioner

20 CFR Ch. III

Semiannual Unified Regulatory Agenda

AGENCY: Social Security Administration.

ACTION: Semiannual regulatory agenda.

SUMMARY: Executive Order (E.O.) 12866 (as amended by E.O. 13258) entitled Regulatory Planning and Review, issued September 30, 1993, and the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-354) require each Federal agency to publish semiannually a brief description of all regulatory actions under development or review, expected to be under development or review for the next 12 months, or completed since the previous publication of the agenda. Our last agenda of regulations was published May 13, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information about a specific regulatory action, contact the person identified as the agency contact for that action. Comments or inquiries of a general nature should be directed to Georgia E. Myers, Regulations Officer, Social Security Administration, 2109 West Low Rise Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401; Telephone (410) 965-3632 or TTY (410) 966-5609.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Social Security Administration (SSA)

administers the retirement, survivors, and disability insurance programs under title II of the Social Security Act (the Act), the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program under title XVI of the Act, and Special Benefits to Certain World War II Veterans under title VIII of the Act. Our regulations generally do not impose burdens on the private sector or on State, local, or tribal governments. Our regulations document the rules under which we make eligibility determinations and set forth both the responsibilities of the Agency towards the public and beneficiaries' rights and responsibilities under the programs we administer.

Our regulatory efforts can be placed into one of the following three categories: (1) legislative implementation; (2) program changes to improve SSA service to the public; and (3) improvements or clarifications to enhance effective stewardship of SSA programs.

We continue to seek legislative improvements for the programs we administer. However, because of the complexity of our programs, statutory language is rarely detailed enough to govern the actions of agency adjudicative decision-makers. Supporting regulations are often required. In some instances, Congress directs SSA to issue implementing regulations. For other legislative provisions, SSA regulations provide program information to applicants for benefits, current beneficiaries and their legal counsels.

Included in our agenda are items that will amend our regulations to include more provisions of "The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999," (Pub. L. 106-170), which was signed on December 17, 1999. Among the provisions still requiring regulations are provisions that will suspend continuing disability reviews based on work activity and expedite reinstatement of disability benefits terminated due to work activity.

We continue to work diligently to improve our program benefit regulations and to develop partnerships with large segments of the community of interest groups concerned about Social Security programs. The remainder of our Unified Agenda reflects such improvements and clarifications.

For this edition of SSA's regulatory agenda, the most important significant regulatory actions are included in The Regulatory Plan, which appears in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**. The Regulatory Plan entries are listed in the table of contents below and are denoted by a bracketed bold reference, which directs the reader to the appropriate sequence number in part II.

The fall 2002 regulatory agenda for the Social Security Administration follows.

Dated: October 3, 2002.

Georgia E. Myers,
SSA Regulations Officer.

Social Security Administration—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3813	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Mental Disorders (886P)	0960-AF69

Social Security Administration—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3814	Revised Medical Criteria for Endocrine Disorders (436P)	0960-AD78
3815	Supplemental Standards for Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Social Security Administration (601P)	0960-AE48
3816	Deeming of Income From an Ineligible Spouse to an Eligible Individual and an Eligible Child (606P)	0960-AE50
3817	Title VI (Civil Rights Act (1964)), Title IX (Education Amend. (1972)), Rehabilitation Act (1973), and Age Discrimination Act (1975) in Programs/Activities Receiving Financial Assistance by SSA (617P)	0960-AE63
3818	Enforcement of Nondiscrimination in Social Security Programs or Activities (661P)	0960-AE78
3819	Federal Salary Offset (Withholding a Portion of a Federal Employee's Salary To Collect a Delinquent Debt Owed to the Social Security Administration) (721P) (Reg Plan Seq No. 157)	0960-AE89

SSA

Social Security Administration—Proposed Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3820	Administrative Wage Garnishment (To Repay a Debt Owed to the Social Security Administration) (724P) (Reg Plan Seq No. 158)	0960-AE92
3821	Work Activity Standard as a Basis for Review of an Individual's Disabled Status (Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999) (725P)	0960-AE93
3822	Evidence Requirement for Assignment of Social Security Administration Numbers (SSNs) and Assignment of SSNs for Nonwork Purposes (751P) (Reg Plan Seq No. 159)	0960-AF05
3823	Medical Equivalence for Adults and Children (787P)	0960-AF19
3824	Expedited Reinstatement of Disability Benefits (Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act) (790P)	0960-AF21
3825	SSI Trusts and Transfers of Resources (791P)	0960-AF22
3826	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Genitourinary Disorders (802P)	0960-AF30
3827	Revised Medical Criteria of Evaluating Impairments Affecting Multiple Body Systems (803P)	0960-AF32
3828	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Immune System Disorders (804P)	0960-AF33
3829	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Special Senses and Speech Disorders (805P)	0960-AF34
3830	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Neurological Disorders (806P)	0960-AF35
3831	Wage Reports and Pension Information (809P)	0960-AF38
3832	Filing Claims Under the Federal Tort Claims Act and the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act (785P)	0960-AF39
3833	Disability Insurance Program Demonstration Project Authority (Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999) (789P)	0960-AF41
3834	Revisions to the Medical-Vocational Guidelines (823P)	0960-AF47
3835	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Cardiovascular Disorders (826P)	0960-AF48
3836	Non-Payment of Monthly Social Security Benefits to Aliens Residing in the United States Who Are Not Lawfully Present (849P)	0960-AF56
3837	Determining Disability for an Individual with Drug Addiction or Alcoholism (851P)	0960-AF57
3838	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Respiratory System Disorders (859P)	0960-AF58
3839	Amendments to Annual Earnings Test Regulations (866P)	0960-AF62
3840	Revising the Rules on Consideration of Work History in Determining Whether an Individual is Disabled (875P)	0960-AF64
3841	Revising the Rules on the Steps for Evaluating Disability (894P)	0960-AF65
3842	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Growth Disorders (444P)	0960-AF67
3843	Clarification of the Disability Exclusion (915P)	0960-AF71
3844	Special Benefits for Certain World War II Veterans; Reporting Requirements, Suspension and Termination Events, Overpayments, and Administrative Review Process (922P)	0960-AF72
3845	Continued Payment of Benefits to Certain Individuals Who Medically Recover While Participating in Certain Vocational Rehabilitation Programs (926P)	0960-AF75
3846	Stepchild Entitlement and Termination Requirements (934P)	0960-AF78
3847	Claimant Identification Pilot Projects (937P) (Reg Plan Seq No. 160)	0960-AF79
3848	Representative Payment Under Titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act (949P) (Reg Plan Seq No. 161) ..	0960-AF83
3849	Removal of Clothing from the Definitions of Income and In-Kind Support and Maintenance, Exclusions of One Automobile and Household Goods and Personal Effects Under SSI from Resources (950P) (Reg Plan Seq No. 162)	0960-AF84

References in boldface appear in the **Regulatory Plan** in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Social Security Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3850	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Hematologic Disorders and Malignant Neoplastic Diseases (399F)	0960-AD67
3851	Repeal of Facility of Payment Provision (508F)	0960-AE02
3852	Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements With Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, Other Nonprofit Organizations, and Commercial Organizations (547F)	0960-AE25
3853	Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments and Indian Tribal Governments (555F)	0960-AE28
3854	Restrictions on Lobbying in Connection with the Award of Grants, Contracts, and Cooperative Agreements (556F)	0960-AE29
3855	Technical Changes to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Regulations (664F)	0960-AE79
3856	OASDI and SSI; Administrative Review Process; Video Teleconferencing Appearances Before Administrative Law Judges of the Social Security Administration (737F) (Reg Plan Seq No. 163)	0960-AE97
3857	Cost of Living Increases in Primary Insurance Amounts (759F)	0960-AF14

SSA

Social Security Administration—Final Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3858	Change in Retirement Age (775F)	0960-AF16
3859	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Impairments of the Digestive System (800F) (Reg Plan Seq No. 164)	0960-AF28
3860	Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Skin Disorders (801F)	0960-AF29
3861	Clarification of Rules Involving RFC Assessments; Clarification of Use of Vocational Experts and Other Sources of the Sequential Evaluation Process; Incorporation of "Special Profile" Into Regs (808F)	0960-AF37
3862	Access to Information Held by Financial Institutions (815F) (Reg Plan Seq No. 165)	0960-AF43
3863	New Disability Claims Process—Roles of State Agency (816F) (Reg Plan Seq No. 166)	0960-AF44
3864	Exclusion of Representatives and Health Care Providers Convicted of Violations from Participation in Social Security Disability Programs (820F)	0960-AF46
3865	Filing of Applications and Related Forms (797F)	0960-AF52
3866	Special Benefits for Certain World War II Veterans (880F)	0960-AF61
3867	Referral of Persons Eligible for Disability or Blindness Benefits to Other Agencies for Vocational Rehabilitation Services (929F)	0960-AF80
3868	Elimination of Sanctions for Refusal of Vocational Rehabilitation Services Without Cause (938F)	0960-AF81
3869	Interrelationship of Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance Program with the Railroad Retirement Program (943I)	0960-AF82

References in boldface appear in the **Regulatory Plan** in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

Social Security Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3870	Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants) (554F)	0960-AE27
3871	Dedicated Accounts and Installment Payments for Certain Past Due SSI Benefits (622F)	0960-AE59
3872	Privacy and Disclosure of Official Records and Information (711P)	0960-AE88
3873	Payment of Benefits to Aliens Residing Outside the United States (909F)	0960-AF70

Social Security Administration—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identification Number
3874	Collection of Supplemental Security Income Overpayments from Title VIII Benefits (819F)	0960-AF53
3875	Extension of Expiration Date for the Respiratory System Listings (921F)	0960-AF76

Social Security Administration—Discontinued Entries

Regulation Identification Number	Title	Date	Comments
0960-AD95	Definition of "Largest Benefit Amount" for Simultaneous Entitlement to Child's Benefits (481P)	09/05/2002	Withdrawn
0960-AE18	Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance Benefits; Replacing Social Security Number Cards (543F)	09/05/2002	Merged With 0960-AF05
0960-AF49	Representative Payment Under Title II and XVI of the Social Security Act (827P)	08/27/2002	Merged With 0960-AF83
0960-AF50	Removal of Clothing from the Definition of Income and From the Definition of In-Kind Support and Maintenance Under the Supplemental Security Income Program (834P)	08/29/2002	Merged With 0960-AF84
0960-AF51	Exclusion of One Automobile From Resources (835P)	08/29/2002	Merged With 0960-AF84
0960-AF55	Exclusion of Household Goods and Personal Effects Under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program (837P)	08/29/2002	Merged With 0960-AF84
0960-AF66	Compensation for Qualified Organizations Serving as a Representative Payee (846P)	08/27/2002	Merged With 0960-AF83

SSA

Social Security Administration—Discontinued Entries (Continued)

Regulation Identification Number	Title	Date	Comments
0960-AF74	Elimination of Sanctions for Refusal of Vocational Rehabilitation Services Without Good Cause and Elimination of Referrals for Vocational Rehabilitation Services (925P)	09/05/2002	Withdrawn

Social Security Administration (SSA)

Prerule Stage

3813. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING MENTAL DISORDERS (886P)

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1500, app 1; 20 CFR 404.1520; 20 CFR 404.1520a; 20 CFR 404.1528; 20 CFR 416.920a; 20 CFR 416.928

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to revise the criteria in the Listing of Impairments (the Listing) that we use to evaluate claims for disability benefits where the

individual is alleging a mental impairment. The Listing describes, for each of the major body systems, impairments that are considered severe enough to prevent a person from doing any gainful activity. Our proposed revisions will reflect advances in medical knowledge, treatment, and methods of evaluating mental impairments in both adults and children.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/00/02	
NPRM	09/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Federalism: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Cathy Lively, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-1180

Maria D. Smith, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-3661

RIN: 0960-AF69

Social Security Administration (SSA)

Proposed Rule Stage

3814. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR ENDOCRINE DISORDERS (436P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1500, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Sections 9.00 and 109.00 of appendix 1 to subpart P of part 404 of our regulations (404.1501 through 404.1599) describe those endocrine impairments that are considered severe enough to prevent a person from doing any gainful activity, or in the case of a child claiming SSA payments under title XVI, that cause marked and severe functional limitations. We are proposing to revise the criteria in these sections to reflect advances in medical knowledge, treatment, and methods of evaluating endocrine impairments. The Supplemental Security Income Program incorporates and uses the same medical

criteria as the Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Maria D. Smith, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-3661

RIN: 0960-AD78

3815. SUPPLEMENTAL STANDARDS FOR ETHICAL CONDUCT FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (601P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 5 USC APP (Ethics in Government Act of 1978); 5 USC 7301; 5 USC 7353

CFR Citation: 5 CFR ch LXXXI (New)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Social Security Administration (SSA), with the concurrence of the Office of Government Ethics (OGE), proposes to issue regulations for officers and employees of SSA that supplement the OGE Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch, which became effective February 3, 1993. The proposed rule specifies procedural and substantive requirements that are necessary to address ethical issues unique to SSA.

SSA

Proposed Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR	Cite
NPRM	12/00/02		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Stuart M. Besser, Attorney, Social Security Administration, Office of the General Counsel, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-3194Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769**RIN:** 0960-AE48**3816. DEEMING OF INCOME FROM AN INELIGIBLE SPOUSE TO AN ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL AND AN ELIGIBLE CHILD (606P)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1381a; 42 USC 1382; 42 USC 1382a; 42 USC 1382b; 42 USC 1382c(f); 42 USC 1382j; 42 USC 1383**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 416.1160; 20 CFR 416.1165; 20 CFR 416.1166**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule would revise the method used under the SSI program to determine income for a child who lives with both parents where one parent is ineligible for SSI because of income deemed from an ineligible spouse. Instead of deeming any excess income from the ineligible spouse to the child, referred to as "pass-through deeming," we would deem income to the child using the method we use where neither parent files for SSI. Under current rules, "pass-through" deeming has had the unintended effect of deeming more income than would have been deemed if the regular rules for deeming from ineligible parents who do not file for SSI are used.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR	Cite
NPRM	05/00/03		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Patricia Hora, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-7183**RIN:** 0960-AE50**3817. TITLE VI (CIVIL RIGHTS ACT (1964)), TITLE IX (EDUCATION AMEND. (1972)), REHABILITATION ACT (1973), AND AGE DISCRIMINATION ACT (1975) IN PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES RECEIVING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY SSA (617P)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 20 USC 1681; 29 USC 794; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 2000d; 42 USC 6101**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 431**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Prior to March 31, 1995, SSA was an operating component of HHS and the general regulatory authority for SSA programs and administration was vested in the Secretary of Health and Human Services (the Secretary) based on section 1102 of the Social Security Act (the Act) (42 U.S.C. 1302). The Social Security Independence and Program Improvements Act (SSIPIA) established SSA as an independent agency in the Executive Branch of the Federal Government effective March 31, 1995, and vested general regulatory authority in the Commissioner of Social Security (the Commissioner). Under section 106(b) of SSIPIA, HHS regulations in effect immediately prior to March 31, 1995, which relate to functions now vested in the Commissioner by reason of SSA's independence, continue to apply to SSA until such time as they are modified, suspended, terminated or repealed by the Commissioner. SSA is promulgating regulations at 20 CFR part 431, which are based in large measure upon the HHS regulations at 45 CFR parts 80, 81, 84, 86 and 91. These SSA regulations reflect changes necessary to adapt the HHS regulations to SSA procedures. Upon SSA's rules becoming final regulations, the HHS regulations will cease to have application to SSA in accordance with section 106(b) of SSIPIA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR	Cite
NPRM	12/00/02		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis
Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Eileen Inglesby-Houghton, Attorney, Social Security Administration, Office of the General Counsel, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-4816Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769**RIN:** 0960-AE63**3818. ENFORCEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES (661P)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 29 USC 794; 42 USC 902**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 432**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: These proposed regulations are intended to ensure that individuals are not subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability, race, color, national origin, sex, age, or religion in any program or activity conducted by SSA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR	Cite
NPRM	12/00/02		

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769**RIN:** 0960-AE78**3819. FEDERAL SALARY OFFSET (WITHHOLDING A PORTION OF A FEDERAL EMPLOYEE'S SALARY TO COLLECT A DELINQUENT DEBT OWED TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION) (721P)****Regulatory Plan:** This entry is Seq. No. 157 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.**RIN:** 0960-AE89

SSA

Proposed Rule Stage

3820. ADMINISTRATIVE WAGE GARNISHMENT (TO REPAY A DEBT OWED TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION) (724P)

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 158 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0960-AE92

3821. WORK ACTIVITY STANDARD AS A BASIS FOR REVIEW OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S DISABLED STATUS (TICKET TO WORK AND WORK INCENTIVES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999) (725P)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 421

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1590

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory, January 1, 2002, Section 111 of Public Law 106-170, effective January 1, 2002.

Abstract: One of SSA's most important initiatives is to assure that Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries with disabilities who want to work have the opportunity to do so. Individuals with disabilities face multiple barriers in attempting to return to work. Section 111 of Public Law 106-170 provides a new statutory work incentive by eliminating the scheduling of continuing disability medical reviews solely because of an SSDI beneficiary's work activity, once the beneficiary has received SSDI benefits for 24 months. (Such beneficiaries will continue to be subject to regularly scheduled continuing disability reviews, work investigations, and benefit termination due to earnings from work activity at the level of substantial gainful activity.)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jack Baumel, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Employment Support programs, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-9834

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security

Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AE93

3822. EVIDENCE REQUIREMENT FOR ASSIGNMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION NUMBERS (SSNS) AND ASSIGNMENT OF SSNS FOR NONWORK PURPOSES (751P)

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 159 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0960-AF05

3823. MEDICAL EQUIVALENCE FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN (787P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1526; 20 CFR 404.1529; 20 CFR 416.926; 20 CFR 416.929

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This notice of proposed rulemaking will clarify that we will consider the medical severity of the individual's impairment, based on all relevant evidence in the case record when we make a finding regarding medical equivalence. These rules will clarify our medical equivalence policy in light of the decision in Hickman v. Apfel, 187 F.3d 683 (7th Cir. 1999).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jane Deweib, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-9878

Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AF19

3824. EXPEDITED REINSTATEMENT OF DISABILITY BENEFITS (TICKET TO WORK AND WORK INCENTIVES IMPROVEMENT ACT) (790P)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 423(i); 42 USC 1383(p)

CFR Citation: Not Yet Determined

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Individuals with disabilities face multiple barriers in attempting to return to work. Section 112 of Public Law 106-170 provides a new statutory work incentive by providing for expedited reinstatement of SSDI and SSI benefits terminated due to work activity, when the former beneficiary requests reinstatement within 60 months of termination because his or her disability prevents work activity. Section 112 also provides for payment of provisional benefits for up to six months until SSA makes a determination on the requester's entitlement to reinstated benefits.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jack Baumel, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Employment Support programs, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-9834

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF21

3825. SSI TRUSTS AND TRANSFERS OF RESOURCES (791P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 1382a(a); 42 USC 1382b(c); 42 USC 1382b(e); PL 106-169, sec 205; PL 106-169, sec 206

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 416

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to amend our regulations to reflect sections 205 and 206 of Public Law 106-169, the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999. Section

SSA

Proposed Rule Stage

205 generally provides for counting certain trusts as resources in the SSI program. Section 206 generally provides for a period of ineligibility for SSI benefits as a result of transferring resources for less than fair market value.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Albert Fatur, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Program Benefits, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-9855

Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AF22

3826. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING GENITOURINARY DISORDERS (802P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404, subpart P, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to revise the criteria in the Listing of Impairments (the Listings) that we use to evaluate genitourinary impairments. We apply these criteria at step three of our sequential evaluation processes for adults and children who claim Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits based on disability under title II and title XVI of the Social Security Act. The revisions reflect advances in medical knowledge, treatment, and methods of evaluating genitourinary impairments.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Cheryl A. Williams, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-4163

RIN: 0960-AF30

3827. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA OF EVALUATING IMPAIRMENTS AFFECTING MULTIPLE BODY SYSTEMS (803P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404, subpart P, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to revise the criteria in the Listing of Impairments that we use to evaluate claims involving impairments affecting multiple body systems. We apply these criteria when you claim benefits based on disability under title II and title XVI of the Social Security Act. The proposed revisions reflect current medical knowledge, treatment, and methods of evaluating impairments affecting multiple body systems.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Cathy Lively, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-1180

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF32

3828. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING IMMUNE SYSTEM DISORDERS (804P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404, subpart P, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to revise the criteria in the Listing of Impairments that we use to evaluate claims involving impairments affecting the Immune System. We apply these criteria when you claim benefits based on disability under title II and title XVI of the Social Security Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Victoria Dorf, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-9245

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF33

3829. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING SPECIAL SENSES AND SPEECH DISORDERS (805P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404, subpart P, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to revise the criteria in the Listing of Impairments that we use to evaluate claims involving special senses and speech disorders. We apply these criteria when you claim benefits based on disability under title II and title XVI of the Social Security Act. The proposed revisions reflect advances in medical knowledge, treatment, and methods of evaluating special senses and speech disorders.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

SSA

Proposed Rule Stage

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Cheryl A. Williams, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-4163

RIN: 0960-AF34

3830. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS (806P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404, subpart P, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to revise the criteria in the Listing of Impairments (the listings) that we use to evaluate claims involving neurological disorders at the third step of our sequential evaluation processes for adults and children under title II and title XVI of the Social Security Act (the Act). The proposed revisions reflect advances in medical knowledge, treatment, and methods of evaluating neurological disorders.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Fran O. Thomas, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-9822

RIN: 0960-AF35

3831. WAGE REPORTS AND PENSION INFORMATION (809P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 432; 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 422.114

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Social Security Administration (SSA) proposes to amend its rules on processing reports of wages (paper Forms W-2, "Wage and

Tax Statement," and W-3 "Transmittal of Income and Tax Statements," or equivalent W-2 and W-3 magnetic media or electronic reports) submitted annually by employers. We are proposing to eliminate the acceptance level for wage reports with unidentified or incorrectly identified wage items. We are proposing including electronic filing as a means of wage reporting. Also, we propose replacing references to obsolete technical instruction bulletins with Magnetic Media Reporting and Electronic Filing instructions. We have updated form names and updated the address for obtaining a publication. These rules are intended to ensure that wages are reported to SSA with accurate information so that earnings can be properly credited to employees' Social Security records.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF38

3832. FILING CLAIMS UNDER THE FEDERAL TORT CLAIMS ACT AND THE MILITARY PERSONNEL AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES CLAIMS ACT (785P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 28 USC 2672; 31 USC 3721; 42 USC 905(a)(2)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 429.101 to 429.110; 20 CFR 429.201 to 429.211; 28 CFR Part 14

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to establish a new subpart B in part 429 that would prescribe the procedures SSA follows when claims are filed by employees against SSA for personal property damage or loss incident to their service with SSA. We also propose to make corrections and clarifications to our current procedures and practices on claims against the government for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or death that is caused

by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of an SSA employee.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Jonathan R. Cantor, General Attorney, Social Security Administration, General Law Division, Office of the General Counsel, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235
Phone: 410 965-3166

Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AF39

3833. DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AUTHORITY (TICKET TO WORK AND WORK INCENTIVES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999) (789P)

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 42 USC 434

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1599

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: One of SSA's most important initiatives is to assure that Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) beneficiaries with disabilities who want to work have the opportunity to do so. Section 301 of Public Law 106-170 provides the Commissioner of Social Security the authority to develop and carry out experiments and demonstration projects designed to determine the relative advantages and disadvantages of various alternative methods of treating the work activity of individuals entitled to disability insurance benefits.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social

SSA

Proposed Rule Stage

Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF41

3834. REVISIONS TO THE MEDICAL-VOCATIONAL GUIDELINES (823P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 423; 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404, subpart P, app 2

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will make several clarifications to our medical-vocational guidelines. First, for individuals whose previous semiskilled or skilled work does not allow him or her to transfer skills to other semiskilled or skilled work within his or her residual functional capacity (RFC), we will treat the past work experience as if it were unskilled. It will also clarify which medical-vocational rules apply to individuals who are illiterate or unable to communicate in English.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Elaine Tocco, Vocational Policy Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
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Cheryl A. Williams, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-4163

RIN: 0960-AF47

3835. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING CARDIOVASCULAR DISORDERS (826P)

Priority: Other Significant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1500, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Listings 4.00 and 104.00 of appendix 1 to subpart P of our regulation (20 CFR 404.1501 through 404.1599) describe those cardiovascular impairments that are considered severe enough to prevent a person from doing any gainful activity, or for a child claiming SSI payments under title XVI, that cause marked and severe functional limitations. We propose to revise the criteria that we use to evaluate cardiovascular impairments under the listings to reflect our program experience and advances in medical knowledge, treatment and methods of evaluating these disorders. The SSI program incorporates by reference and uses the same medical criteria as the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Bonnie Davis, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-4172

Cynthia Pullen-Carroll, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-3691

RIN: 0960-AF48

3836. NON-PAYMENT OF MONTHLY SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS TO ALIENS RESIDING IN THE UNITED STATES WHO ARE NOT LAWFULLY PRESENT (849P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 8 USC 1611(b)(2); 8 USC 1641; 42 USC 402(y)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.401; 20 CFR 404.460; 20 CFR 404.481 (New) to 404.483 (New); 20 CFR 404.485 (New) to 404.490 (New)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to add rules to require evidence in our records of United States citizenship, status as a United States national or, in the case of an alien, lawful presence in the

United States in order for an individual to receive benefits under title II of the Social Security Act while in the United States.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Cynthia Pullen-Carroll, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-3691

RIN: 0960-AF56

3837. DETERMINING DISABILITY FOR AN INDIVIDUAL WITH DRUG ADDICTION OR ALCOHOLISM (851P)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: PL 104-121, sec 105; PL 105-33, sec 5525; PL 106-170, sec 401

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.315; 20 CFR 404.316; 20 CFR 404.321; 20 CFR 404.332; 20 CFR 404.335; 20 CFR 404.337; 20 CFR 404.350; 20 CFR 404.352; 20 CFR 404.402; 20 CFR 404.470; 20 CFR 404.480; 20 CFR 404.902; 20 CFR 404.1535 to 404.1541; 20 CFR 1500, app 1; 20 CFR 416.202; 20 CFR 416.214; 20 CFR 416.262; 20 CFR 416.265; 20 CFR 416.535; 20 CFR 416.542; 20 CFR 416.544; 20 CFR 416.558; 20 CFR 416.601; 20 CFR 416.610; 20 CFR 416.925; 20 CFR 416.935; 20 CFR 416.1123; 20 CFR 416.1326; 20 CFR 416.1331; 20 CFR 416.1335; 20 CFR 416.1402; 20 CFR 416.1701; 20 CFR 416.1720; 20 CFR 416.1725

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to revise our regulations that address drug addiction and alcoholism (DAA) under title II and XVI of the Social Security Act. The proposed rules reflect provisions of section 105 of the Contract with America Advancement Act of 1996, Public Law 104-121; section 5525 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Public Law 105-33; and section 401 of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, Public Law 106-170.

SSA

Proposed Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Cheryl Wrobel, Policy Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
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Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF57**3838. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING RESPIRATORY SYSTEM DISORDERS (859P)****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 404.1500, app 1**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: We propose to revise the criteria in the Listing of Impairments that we use to evaluate claims involving respiratory system disorders. The proposed revisions reflect advances in medical knowledge, treatment, and methods of evaluating respiratory disorders.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Carolyn Kiefer, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-9104

Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AF58**3839. AMENDMENTS TO ANNUAL EARNINGS TEST REGULATIONS (866P)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 402; 42 USC 403; 42 USC 403(a); 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 416; 42 USC 423; 42 USC 425; 42 USC 428(a) to 428(e); 42 USC 902(a)(5); PL 106-182**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 404.415; 20 CFR 404.416**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Senior Citizen's Freedom to Work Act of 2000, enacted on April 7, 2000, eliminates the annual earnings test for beneficiaries, starting from the month in which they reach full retirement age.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF62**3840. REVISING THE RULES ON CONSIDERATION OF WORK HISTORY IN DETERMINING WHETHER AN INDIVIDUAL IS DISABLED (875P)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 402; 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 405(b); 42 USC 405(d) to 405(h); 42 USC 416(i); 42 USC 421(a); 42 USC 421(i); 42 USC 422(c); 42 USC 423; 42 USC 425; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1382; 42 USC 1382c; 42 USC 1382h; 42 USC 1383(a); 42 USC 1383(c); 42 USC 1383(d)(1); 42 USC 1383b**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 404.1520; 20 CFR 404.1560; 20 CFR 404.1565; 20 CFR 404.1594(b)(4)(iii); 20 CFR 416.920; 20 CFR 416.960; 20 CFR 416.965; 20 CFR 416.994(b)(l)(iv)(c)**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: We propose to change some of the rules we use to decide whether an individual is "disabled." These rules govern how we look at an individual's past work history. Currently, we

consider work performed in the last 15 years to be relevant when we decide whether an individual is "disabled." We propose to change our rules so that we only look at work performed in the last five years.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Cheryl A. Williams, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-4163

RIN: 0960-AF64**3841. REVISING THE RULES ON THE STEPS FOR EVALUATING DISABILITY (894P)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 404.1520; 20 CFR 416.920**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: We propose to combine steps 4 and 5 of the current sequential evaluation process for evaluating disability into one step. Instead of having separate steps for determining whether a claimant can do any past relevant work and other work, we would have one step where we determine if a claimant can do any substantial gainful activity (SGA) at all. This would simplify the evaluation process and save time and resources.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Cheryl A. Williams, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-4163

RIN: 0960-AF65

SSA

Proposed Rule Stage

3842. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING GROWTH DISORDERS (444P)

Priority: Other Significant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1302; 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404 subpart P, app 1; 20 CFR 416 subpart I

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Section 100.00 of part B of appendix 1 to subpart P of part 404 of the Disability Regulations describes growth impairments considered severe enough to cause marked and severe functional limitations in a child under age 18. We are proposing revisions to the growth impairment listings. The revisions contained in these regulations reflect advances in medical knowledge, treatment, and methods of evaluating growth impairments. The Supplemental Security Income program incorporates and uses the same medical criteria as the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Regina Connell, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
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Phone: 410 965-7183

Related RIN: Related To 0960-AD80

RIN: 0960-AF67

3843. CLARIFICATION OF THE DISABILITY EXCLUSION (915P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 402; 42 USC 402(a); 42 USC 403(a); 42 USC 403(b); 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 412 to 414; 42 USC 415 to 417; 42 USC 423; 42 USC 425; 42 USC 428(a) to 428(e); 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.130(f); 20 CFR 404.211(b)(2); 20 CFR 404.211(e)(1); 20 CFR 404.320(a)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These proposed rules amend our regulations at sections 404.130, 404.211 and 404.320 to clarify that if we count a prior period of disability in determining a person's insured status or benefit amount, the period of disability must be counted for both purposes. Similarly, if we exclude a prior period of disability when either determining insured status or the benefit amount, we must exclude it for both purposes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Ines Riley, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Program Benefits, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-4138

Fran O. Thomas, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-9822

RIN: 0960-AF71

3844. SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN WORLD WAR II VETERANS; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION EVENTS, OVERPAYMENTS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PROCESS (922P)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 405(j); 42 USC 405(k); 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1001 to 1013; 42 USC 1104; 42 USC 1106

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 408.601; 20 CFR 408.610; 20 CFR 408.615; 20 CFR 408.620 to 408.622; 20 CFR 408.624; 20 CFR 408.625; 20 CFR 408.635; 20 CFR 408.640; 20 CFR 408.641; 20 CFR 408.645; 20 CFR 408.650; 20 CFR 408.655; 20 CFR 408.660; 20 CFR 408.665; 20 CFR 408.701; 20 CFR 408.704; 20 CFR 408.708; 20 CFR 408.710; 20 CFR 408.712; 20 CFR

408.714; 20 CFR 408.801 to 408.805; 20 CFR 408.810; 20 CFR 408.812; 20 CFR 408.814; 20 CFR 408.816; 20 CFR 408.818; 20 CFR 408.820; 20 CFR 408.900 to 408.905; 20 CFR 408.910 to 408.915; 20 CFR 408.918; 20 CFR 408.920; 20 CFR 408.922; 20 CFR 408.923; 20 CFR 408.930 to 408.933; 20 CFR 408.940 to 408.946; 20 CFR 408.1000 to 408.1007; 20 CFR 408.1009; 20 CFR 408.1011; 20 CFR 408.1013 to 408.1016; 20 CFR 408.1020 to 408.1022

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to add six additional subchapters to part 408 (proposed) of our regulations. The title VIII program provides monthly benefits to certain World War II veterans who were previously eligible for supplemental security income payments under title XVI of the Act and reside outside the United States. These additional subparts would codify the title VIII requirements on reporting responsibilities, suspension and termination events, overpayment and underpayment policies, and the administrative review process.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AF72

3845. CONTINUED PAYMENT OF BENEFITS TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO MEDICALLY RECOVER WHILE PARTICIPATING IN CERTAIN VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAMS (926P)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404; 20 CFR 416

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to amend our regulations relating to the continuation of benefit payments to certain individuals under section 225(b) and 1631(a)(6) of the Social Security Act

SSA

Proposed Rule Stage

(the Act). These sections of the Act permit the continued payment of Social Security benefits based on disability or SSI benefits based on disability or blindness to certain individuals whose disability or blindness ceases while they are participating in an approved vocational rehabilitation (VR) program. For benefits to continue, we must determine that completion of the program, or its continuation for a specified period of time, will increase the likelihood that the individual will not have to return to the disability or blindness benefit rolls. (Section 101(b) of Public Law 106-170, the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency program under section 1148 of the Act.) The proposed rules will amend the existing regulations to carry out these amendments. They will expand the regulations to explain more fully the circumstances under which benefit payments may continue, including when an individual will be considered to be participating in an appropriate VR program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Melvin Winer, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Employment Support Programs, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-9175

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF75**3846. • STEPCHILD ENTITLEMENT AND TERMINATION REQUIREMENTS (934P)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 402; 42 USC 403(a); 42 USC 403(b); 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 416; 42 USC 423; 42 USC 425; 42 USC 428(a) to 428(e); 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.339; 20 CFR 404.352; 20 CFR 404.363; 42 CFR 404.364

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: SSA proposes to amend its regulations to incorporate the changes to the entitlement and termination requirements for stepchild's benefits introduced by the Contract with America Advancement Act of 1996. The statutory changes require receipt of at least one-half support from the insured person (stepparent) for a child to become entitled to stepchild benefits, and benefit termination when the stepchild's natural parent and stepparent divorce. We propose to extend the termination requirement to include: (1) a divorce which ends the marriage between a stepchild's adoptive parent and stepparent; and (2) a prospective annulment which ends the marriage between a stepchild's natural or adoptive parent and stepparent. We also propose to include in the regulation our longstanding policy that a stepchild's benefits are terminated when the marriage between the stepchild's parent and the stepparent is annulled from the beginning (ab initio). These proposed rules also correct a cross-reference affecting entitlement to mother's or father's benefits, and reintroduce an inadvertently deleted definition concerning dependency determinations for grandchildren and stepgrandchildren born during the one-year support period. These rules will reflect enacted legislation and provide accurate and complete guidelines for determining entitlement to benefits.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**Required:** No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Sherry Pollack, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Program Benefits, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
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Phone: 410 965-3298

RIN: 0960-AF78**3847. • CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION PILOT PROJECTS (937P)**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 160 in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0960-AF79**3848. • REPRESENTATIVE PAYMENT UNDER TITLES II, VIII, AND XVI OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (949P)**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 161 in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0960-AF83**3849. • REMOVAL OF CLOTHING FROM THE DEFINITIONS OF INCOME AND IN-KIND SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE, EXCLUSIONS OF ONE AUTOMOBILE AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS UNDER SSI FROM RESOURCES (950P)**

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 162 in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0960-AF84

Social Security Administration (SSA)

Final Rule Stage

3850. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING HEMATOLOGIC DISORDERS AND MALIGNANT NEOPLASTIC DISEASES (399F)**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 404.1500, app 1**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Sections 7.00 and 107.00 (hemic and lymphatic system), and 13.00 and 113.00 (malignant neoplastic diseases) of appendix 1 to subpart P of part 404 of our regulations (404.1501 through 404.1599) describe those impairments that are considered severe enough to prevent a person from doing any gainful activity, or for a child claiming SSI payments under title XVI, that causes marked and severe functional limitations. We are proposing revisions to these sections to ensure that the medical evaluation criteria are up-to-date and consistent with the latest advances in medical knowledge and treatment. The Supplemental Security Income program incorporates and uses the same medical criteria as the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/27/01	66 FR 59305
NPRM Comment Period End	01/28/02	
NPRM Comment Period End Extended	04/18/02	67 FR 19138
Final Action	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Michelle Hungerman, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-2289

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AD67**3851. REPEAL OF FACILITY OF PAYMENT PROVISION (508F)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 403(a)**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 404.402(b); 20 CFR 404.458**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: These final rules amend our regulation to reflect section 309 of Public Law 103-296. That repeals the facility of payment provision under which Social Security benefits, subject to the family maximum, would not be redistributed in certain cases, and provides that the reduction for the family maximum will be made prior to a temporary suspension for work when the nonworking auxiliary resides in a separate household from the working auxiliary.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	11/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AE02**3852. UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS WITH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, HOSPITALS, OTHER NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS (547F)****Priority:** Info./Admin./Other**Legal Authority:** 31 USC 7505; 41 USC 403(11); 42 USC 902(a)(5)**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 435.000**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This final rule will create a new part in the Code of Federal Regulations. The new part will provide standards in the administration of grants and agreements with institutions of higher education, hospitals, other nonprofit organizations, and commercial organizations.

The Social Security Independence and Program Improvements Act of 1994, enacted August 15, 1994, established SSA as an independent agency separate

from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), effective March 31, 1995. To implement its own set of grants regulations, SSA proposes to codify almost verbatim the text of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular Number A-110 "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations." These regulations will establish SSA grants regulations, separate from the HHS regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/27/00	65 FR 24767
NPRM Comment Period End	06/26/00	
Final Action	03/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AE25**3853. UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS (555F)****Priority:** Info./Admin./Other**Legal Authority:** 41 USC 403(ii); 42 USC 902(a)(5)**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 437.000**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This final regulation migrates the HHS grants regulation at 45 CFR part 92 into a new SSA regulation at 20 CFR part 437 now that SSA is an independent agency.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401

SSA

Final Rule Stage

Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AE28

3854. RESTRICTIONS ON LOBBYING IN CONNECTION WITH THE AWARD OF GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS (556F)

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 31 USC 1352; 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 438.000

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final regulation migrates the HHS grants regulation at 45 CFR part 93 into a new SSA regulation at 20 CFR part 438 now that SSA is an independent agency.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AE29

3855. TECHNICAL CHANGES TO SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) REGULATIONS (664F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: Not Yet Determined

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 416.1236; 20 CFR 416, app, subpart K

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We are amending the SSI regulations by making technical changes to our rules on income and resources. These technical changes update lists of exclusions from income and resources under the SSI program that are based on statutes other than the Social Security Act and make additional technical changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Eric Ice, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security

Administration, Office of Program Benefits, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-3233

Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AE79

3856. OASDI AND SSI; ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PROCESS; VIDEO TELECONFERENCING APPEARANCES BEFORE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (737F)

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 163 in part II of this issue of the **Federal Register**.

RIN: 0960-AE97

3857. COST OF LIVING INCREASES IN PRIMARY INSURANCE AMOUNTS (759F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 402(a); 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 415; 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.273 to 404.275

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final rule revises our rules dealing with automatic cost-of-living increases to primary insurance amounts under title II of the Social Security Act. The revisions eliminate the restriction that we could only grant cost-of-living increases based on rises in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or the Average Wage Index (AWI) if either the CPI or AWI increased by three percent or more during the prescribed measuring period. The three percent restriction was removed by legislation enacted in 1986. These regulations codify statutory provisions enacted in 1986.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Jeff Kunkel, Actuary, Social Security Administration, Office of the Actuary, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-3013

Cheryl A. Williams, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 966-4163

RIN: 0960-AF14

3858. CHANGE IN RETIREMENT AGE (775F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 402; 42 USC 403; 42 USC 404(a); 42 USC 404(e); 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 405(c); 42 USC 415; 42 USC 416; 42 USC 422(b); 42 USC 423; 42 USC 424a; 42 USC 425; 42 USC 428(a) to 428(e); 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.201; 20 CFR 404.277; 20 CFR 404.304; 20 CFR 404.310 to 404.313; 20 CFR 404.317; 20 CFR 404.335 to 404.338; 20 CFR 404.352; 20 CFR 404.409 to 404.413; 20 CFR 404.421; 20 CFR 404.621; 20 CFR 404.623; 20 CFR 404.762

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These final rules amend our regulations to reflect section 201 of Public Law 98-21, the Social Security amendments of 1983. Section 201 increases the retirement age for unreduced old-age, wife or husband and widow or widower benefits from age 65 to 67.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Bill Hilton, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Program Benefits, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-2468

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AF16

3859. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING IMPAIRMENTS OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM (800F)

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 164 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0960–AF28

3860. REVISED MEDICAL CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING SKIN DISORDERS (801F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1383

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404, subpart P, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final rule will revise the criteria in the Listing of Impairments (the Listings) we use for evaluating skin disorders in adults and to introduce corresponding medical criteria for evaluating skin disorders in children. We will revise the skin listings to ensure that the medical evaluation criteria are up-to-date and consistent and that the latest advances in medical knowledge and treatment are included.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/10/01	66 FR 63634
NPRM Comment Period End	02/08/02	
Final Action	03/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Cheryl Wrobel, Policy Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Disability, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-9108

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960–AF29

3861. CLARIFICATION OF RULES INVOLVING RFC ASSESSMENTS; CLARIFICATION OF USE OF VOCATIONAL EXPERTS AND OTHER SOURCES OF THE SEQUENTIAL EVALUATION PROCESS; INCORPORATION OF “SPECIAL PROFILE” INTO REGS (808F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 402; 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 405(b); 42 USC 405(d) to 405(h); 42 USC 416(i); 42 USC 421(a); 42 USC 421(i); 42 USC 422(c); 42 USC 423; 42 USC 4215; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1382; 42 USC 1382c; 42 USC 1382h; 42 USC 1383(a); 42 USC 1383(c); 42 USC 1383(d)(l); 42 USC 1383b

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1501; 20 CFR 404.1505; 20 CFR 404.1512; 20 CFR 404.1520; 20 CFR 404.1545; 20 CFR 404.1546; 20 CFR 404.1560; 20 CFR 404.1561; 20 CFR 404.1563; 20 CFR 404.1569a; 20 CFR 404.1594

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose changing several sections of our rules to clarify how we make determinations and decisions at steps 4 and 5 of the sequential evaluation process. Among other things, the proposed rules would clarify (1) the responsibility that claimants have to provide evidence of their disability (including evidence related to their residual functional capacity), and (2) that SSA may use a vocational expert to help determine whether a claimant is able to do his or her past relevant work at step 4 of the sequential evaluation process.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/11/02	67 FR 39904
NPRM Comment Period End	08/12/02	
Final Action	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960–AF37

3862. ACCESS TO INFORMATION HELD BY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (815F)

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 165 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0960–AF43

3863. NEW DISABILITY CLAIMS PROCESS—ROLES OF STATE AGENCY (816F)

Regulatory Plan: This entry is Seq. No. 166 in part II of this issue of the Federal Register.

RIN: 0960–AF44

3864. EXCLUSION OF REPRESENTATIVES AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS CONVICTED OF VIOLATIONS FROM PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY PROGRAMS (820F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: PL 106-169, sec 208; 42 USC 1320b-6

CFR Citation: Not Yet Determined

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This final rule would bar representatives and health care providers from participating in the Social Security disability programs if they are determined to have committed fraud. The bar would be 5 years, 10 years, and permanent exclusion for the first, second, and third offenses respectively.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Federalism: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960–AF46

3865. FILING OF APPLICATIONS AND RELATED FORMS (797F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 402(i); 42 USC 402(j); 42 USC 402(o); 42 USC 402(p);

SSA

Final Rule Stage

42 USC 402(r); 42 USC 405; 42 USC 416(i)(2); 42 USC 423(b); 42 USC 428(a); 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.610; 20 CFR 404.611; 20 CFR 422.505

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We will include language that explains the Internet applications completed on SSA's website and submitted to SSA are prescribed applications for filing for social security benefits. We plan to incorporate an explanation that once SSA has an approved electronic signature method in place, the signature method will be included as part of the Internet application process and will be required for the applications.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/17/01	66 FR 43136
NPRM Comment Period End	10/16/01	
Final Action	11/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Saundra Robinson, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Program Benefits, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-4327

Fran O. Thomas, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 966-9822

RIN: 0960-AF52

3866. SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN WORLD WAR II VETERANS (880F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 405(j); 42 USC 405(k); 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1001 to 1013

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 408.101 (New); 20 CFR 408.105 (New); 20 CFR 408.110 (New); 20 CFR 408.120 (New); 20 CFR 408.201 (New); 20 CFR 408.202 (New); 20 CFR 408.204 (New); 20 CFR 408.206 (New); 20 CFR 408.208 (New); 20 CFR 408.210 (New); 20 CFR 408.212 (New); 20 CFR 408.214 (New); 20 CFR 408.216 (New); 20 CFR 408.218 (New); 20 CFR 408.220 (New); 20 CFR 408.222 (New);

20 CFR 408.224 (New); 20 CFR 408.226 (New); 20 CFR 408.228 (New); 20 CFR 408.230 (New); 20 CFR 408.232 (New); 20 CFR 408.234 (New); 20 CFR 408.301 (New); 20 CFR 408.305 (New); 20 CFR 408.310 (New); 20 CFR 408.315 (New); 20 CFR 408.320 (New); 20 CFR 408.325 (New); 20 CFR 408.330 (New); 20 CFR 408.340 (New); 20 CFR 408.345 (New); 20 CFR 408.351 (New); 20 CFR 408.355 (New); 20 CFR 408.360 (New); 20 CFR 408.401 (New) to 408.406 (New); 20 CFR 408.410 (New); 20 CFR 408.412 (New); 20 CFR 408.413 (New); 20 CFR 408.420 (New); 20 CFR 408.425 (New); 20 CFR 408.430 (New); 20 CFR 408.432 (New); 20 CFR 408.435 (New); 20 CFR 408.437 (New); 20 CFR 408.501 (New); 20 CFR 408.505 (New); 20 CFR 408.510 (New); 20 CFR 408.515 (New); 20 CFR 408.601 (New); 20 CFR 408.610 (New); 20 CFR 408.615 (New); 20 CFR 408.620 (New) to 408.622 (New); 20 CFR 408.624 (New); 20 CFR 408.625 (New); 20 CFR 408.635 (New); 20 CFR 408.640 (New); 20 CFR 408.641 (New); 20 CFR 408.645 (New); 20 CFR 408.650 (New); 20 CFR 408.655 (New); 20 CFR 408.660 (New); 20 CFR 408.665 (New)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We propose to add to title 20 of the CFR 5 new subparts in a new part 408 that would set forth our rules applicable to claims for special veterans benefits (SVB) under title VIII of the Social Security Act. The title VIII program provides monthly benefits to certain WWII veterans who were previously eligible for supplemental security income payments under title XVI of the Act and reside outside the United States. These initial subparts would establish the legal basis for the title VIII program as well as codify the title VIII rules on qualification, filing applications, evaluating evidence, and computing and paying benefits. We will be proposing additional subparts dealing with other aspects of the title VIII at a later date.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/30/02	67 FR 55744
NPRM Comment Period End	10/29/02	
Final Action	04/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AF61

3867. • REFERRAL OF PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR DISABILITY OR BLINDNESS BENEFITS TO OTHER AGENCIES FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES (929F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 421; 42 USC 422; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1381 to 133d; 42 USC 1382 Note; 42 USC 1382d; 42 USC 1382c; 42 USC 1382(e)(3); 42 USC 1383; 42 USC 1383b; 42 USC 1383b(a); 42 USC 1383(d)(1); 42 USC 1383(e); 48 USC 1681 Note

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1630; 20 CFR 404.2104; 20 CFR 404.2106; 20 CFR 416.101; 20 CFR 416.110; 20 CFR 416.1030; 20 CFR 416.1701; 20 CFR 416.1710; 20 CFR 416.2204; 20 CFR 416.2206

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We are revising our regulations pertaining to the requirement to refer for vocational rehabilitation (VR) services those individuals who filed for disability benefits, thereby conforming them to provisions in the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999. The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, repealed the VR referral requirement effective with January 1, 2001. For States in which we have implemented the Ticket to Work program, we are no longer referring beneficiaries eligible for disability benefits to State vocational rehabilitation agencies.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Melvin Winer, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Employment Support Programs, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401

SSA

Final Rule Stage

Phone: 410 965-9175

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

Related RIN: Split From 0960-AF74

RIN: 0960-AF80

3868. • ELIMINATION OF SANCTIONS FOR REFUSAL OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES WITHOUT CAUSE (938F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 42 USC 402; 42 USC 403; 42 USC 404(a); 42 USC 404(e); 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 405(c); 42 USC 422(b); 42 USC 423(e); 42 USC 424a; 42 USC 425; 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1320a-8a

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.401; 20 CFR 404.402; 20 CFR 404.421 to 404.425; 20 CFR 404.435 to 404.437; 20 CFR 404.458; 20 CFR 404.902; 20 CFR 404.1596; 20 CFR 404.2101 to 2103; 20 CFR 404.2109; 20 CFR 404.2113; 20 CFR 404.2116; 20 CFR 404.2117; 20 CFR 416.213; 20 CFR 416.708; 20 CFR 416.1701; 20 CFR 416.1715; 20 CFR 416.2040; 20 CFR 416.2201 to 416.2203; 20 CFR 416.2209; 20 CFR 416.2213; 20 CFR 416.2216; 20 CFR 416.2217

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We are revising our regulations to eliminate the sanctions for refusal of vocational rehabilitation (VR) services without good cause, thereby conforming them to the amendments made by the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999. The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999, which established the Ticket to Work program, repealed the VR refusal sanctions (i.e., deductions from social security disability or suspension of

Supplemental Security Income benefits) effective with January 1, 2001. Under the obsolete sanctions, we were required to suspend disability benefits or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments for any disability beneficiary or disabled or blind SSI recipient who refused rehabilitation services without good cause. Since January 1, 2001, refusal of rehabilitation services is no longer a reason for us to sanction disability benefits. Accordingly, we are eliminating the rules regarding the sanctions for refusal of vocational rehabilitation services without good cause.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	11/00/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Melvin Winer, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Employment Support Programs, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-9175

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-1769

Related RIN: Split From 0960-AF74

RIN: 0960-AF81

3869. • INTERRELATIONSHIP OF OLD-AGE, SURVIVORS AND DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM WITH THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT PROGRAM (943I)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: PL 107-90, sec 103; Sec 205(i) of the Social Security Act

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1401; 20 CFR 404.1402; 20 CFR 404.1404; 20 CFR 404.1405; 20 CFR 404.1413

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These interim final rules implement section 103 of the Railroad Retirement and Survivors' Improvement Act of 2001, that established an alternative vesting requirement for railroad workers. Under the alternative provision, railroad workers with 5 or more years of service (but less than 10) become vested under the Railroad Retirement Act provided all the years of service accrued after December 31, 1995. The provision was effective on January 1, 2001.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	02/00/03	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Federalism: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Marylin Buster, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of Program Benefits, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235
Phone: 410 965-5555

Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AF82

Social Security Administration (SSA)

Long-Term Actions

3870. GOVERNMENTWIDE DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION (NONPROCUREMENT) AND GOVERNMENTWIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (GRANTS) (554F)**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 41 USC 403(11); 41 USC 701 et seq; 42 USC 902(a)(5)**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 436.000**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This final regulation migrates the HHS grants regulation at 45 CFR part 76 into a new SSA regulation at 20 CFR part 436 now that SSA is an independent agency.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/23/02	67 FR 3266
NPRM Comment Period End	03/25/02	

Next Action Undetermined

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-0020**RIN:** 0960-AE27**3871. DEDICATED ACCOUNTS AND INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS FOR CERTAIN PAST DUE SSI BENEFITS (622F)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 902(a)(5); 42 USC 1381; 42 USC 1381a; 42 USC 1382(c); 42 USC 1382(e); 42 USC 1383(a) to 1383(d); 42 USC 1383(g)**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 416.545; 20 CFR 416.546; 20 CFR 416.640; 20 CFR 416.1210; 20 CFR 416.1247**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, November 22, 1996. Interim Final Rules were published on 12/20/1996.**Abstract:** These regulations reflect amendments to the Social Security Act made by sections 213 and 221 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. Section 213 requires the establishment of accounts in financial institutions for the payment of past due SSI benefits after reimbursement to a

State for Interim Assistance Reimbursement exceeding 6 months' benefits to representative payees on behalf of children under age 18. These accounts will be dedicated for certain purposes by restrictions on the use of such past due benefits.

Section 221 requires past due SSI benefits after reimbursement to a State for Interim Assistance Reimbursement which equals or exceeds 12 months' benefits to be paid in installments, with certain exceptions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	12/20/96	61 FR 67203
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	02/18/97	
Final Action	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Government Levels Affected:** Federal**Agency Contact:** Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-1769**RIN:** 0960-AE59**3872. PRIVACY AND DISCLOSURE OF OFFICIAL RECORDS AND INFORMATION (711P)****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 5 USC 552; 5 USC 552a; 42 USC 1306(a); 42 USC 902(a)(5)**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 401.30; 20 CFR 401.45; 20 CFR 401.55; 20 CFR 401.150; 20 CFR 401.180**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** We propose to revise our privacy and disclosure rules to:

1. Describe safeguards against inappropriate disclosure of personal information when individuals request information about themselves by electronic means (e.g., through the Internet);
2. Revise our special procedures on an individual's access to medical records;
3. Add a new section to grant direct access to a minor's medical records by the minor's parent or legal guardian acting on the minor's behalf; and
4. Fully describe the role and function of the Privacy Officer.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	To Be Determined	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No**Small Entities Affected:** No**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Chris W. Johnson, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, Office of the General Counsel, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-8563

Suzanne DiMarino, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401 Phone: 410 965-1769

RIN: 0960-AE88**3873. PAYMENT OF BENEFITS TO ALIENS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES (909F)****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 42 USC 402(k); 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 902(a)(5)**CFR Citation:** 20 CFR 404.460**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** We are revising our rules to remove Democratic Kampuchea (now Cambodia) and Vietnam from the list of countries to which social security benefits may not be sent to aliens in those countries under Department of the Treasury (Treasury) restrictions. The removal of the Treasury restrictions on these countries permits benefit payments to accrue for aliens who are entitled to benefits for title II months in which they reside in either Cambodia or Vietnam provided they are not subject to other non-payment provisions for those months. These benefits may be paid to them if they go to the United States or to a country to which SSA can send benefits or if we receive assurance of free access to beneficiaries and vital records from appropriate officials in the country in which they reside. The revisions are necessary to reflect that Treasury has published regulations that have removed their restriction on sending Federal payments to any payees living in these countries.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	To Be Determined	

SSA

Long-Term Actions

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine, Social Insurance Specialist, Social Security Administration, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401
Phone: 410 965-0020

RIN: 0960-AF70

Social Security Administration (SSA)

Completed Actions

3874. COLLECTION OF SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME OVERPAYMENTS FROM TITLE VIII BENEFITS (819F)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 416.570; 20 CFR 416.572

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/04/02	67 FR 38381
Final Action Effective	07/05/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Robert J. Augustine
Phone: 410 965-0020

Patricia Hora
Phone: 410 965-7183

RIN: 0960-AF53

3875. • EXTENSION OF EXPIRATION DATE FOR THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM LISTINGS (921F)

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 402; 42 USC 405(a); 42 USC 405(b); 42 USC 405(d) to 405(h); 42 USC 416(i); 42 USC 421(a); 42 USC 421(i); 42 USC 422(c); 42 USC 423; 42 USC 425; 42 USC 902(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 20 CFR 404.1500, app 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We adjudicate claims at the third step of our sequential evaluation process for evaluating disability using the Listing of Impairments (the Listings) under the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) programs. This final rule extends until July 2, 2003, the date on which the respiratory system listings will no longer be effective. We have made no revisions to the medical criteria in these listings; they remain the same as they now appear in the Code of Federal Regulations. This extension will ensure that we continue to have medical evaluation criteria in the listings to adjudicate claims for disability based

on respiratory impairments at step three of our sequential evaluation process.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/28/02	67 FR 43537
Final Action Effective	06/28/02	

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required: No

Small Entities Affected: No

Government Levels Affected: None

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